

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MADRID 03560 080623Z

12

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 DRC-01 /061 W

----- 081826

R 071553Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9100

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 3560

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, VT, SP

SUBJECT: CASAROLI VISIT TO MADRID

REF ROME 7609

BEGIN SUMMARY: CASAROLI VISIT SUCCESSFUL IN CREATING FAVORABLE CLIMATE RENEWAL CONCORDAT NEGOTIATIONS. ANOVEROS CASE AND OTHER ASPECTS CHURCH/STATE RELATIONS ALSO PROBABLY TREATED. THERE SOME ANNOYANCE AMONG BISHOPS OVER THEIR APPARENT NEAR-TOTAL EXCLUSION THIS ROUND. END SUMMARY

1. MSGR. CASAROLI, VATICAN SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS, VISITED SPAIN JUNE 4-6 AT INVITATION OF SPANISH FONMIN CORTINA TO HOLD TALKS ON OUTSTANDING SPANISH CHURCH/STATE PROBLEMS, PARTICULARLY QUESTION OF CONCORDAT NEGOTIATIONS. CASAROLI HELD SERIES OF LENGTHY SESSIONS WITH CORTINA AND BRIEF CONVERSATIONS WITH JUSTICE MINISTER AND PRIME MINISTER.

2. AT CONCLUSION OF VISIT JOINT COMMUNIQUE WAS ISSUED. COMMUNIQUE STRESSED THAT FRIENDLY AND CONSTRUCTIVE CONVERSATIONS WERE HELD; THAT GOOD WILL WAS REAFFIRMED BY BOTH SIDES AND THAT AGREEMENT WAS REACHED TO PROCEED WITH NEGOTIATIONS FOR "ACTUALIZATION" OF CONCORDAT; THAT BOTH SIDES AGREED THERE SHOULD BE A MORE CLEAR DELINEATION OF THE FIELDS OF RESPONSIBILITY WHICH
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MADRID 03560 080623Z

CORRESPOND TO CHURCH AND STATE; THAT UNTIL SUCH TIME AS A

NEW JURIDICAL STATUS IS AGREED TO THE EXISTING 1953 CONCORDAT WOULD BE FULLY APPLICABLE; AND THAT THE SPIRIT GOVERNING RELATIONS BETWEEN CHURCH AND STATE SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE BASED ON MUTUAL INDEPENDENCE AND RECIPROCAL RESPECT AND COOPERATION.

3. AT AIRPORT DEPARTURE CASAROLI GAVE BRIEF PRESS CONFERENCE WHERE HE STATED "THAT IN LESS THAN 10 HOURS MORE HAS BEEN ACHIEVED THAN IN LAST FIVE YEARS."

4. COMMENT: FINAL COMMUNIQUE, COMMENTS AT PRESS CONFERENCE, AND TOASTS AT BANQUETS, REFLECT OPTIMISM AND GIVE IMPRESSION VISIT WAS HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL. HOWEVER, VERY LITTLE CONCRETE INFORMATION HAS EMERGED FROM SESSIONS. IT EVIDENT THAT AS MINIMUM, VISIT HAS ESTABLISHED FAVORABLE CLIMATE BETWEEN VATICAN AND NEW SPANISH GOVERNMENT.

5. THERE MUCH SPECULATION IN CHURCH AND PRESS CIRCLES AS TO WHAT TRANSPIRED. PRINCIPAL TOPIC WAS OBVIOUSLY CONCORDAT NEGOTIATIONS. IMPRESSION IS AGREEMENT MAY HAVE BEEN REACHED TO PROCEED TOWARDS NEGOTIATION OF NEW CONCORDAT, RATHER THAN TO MERELY NEGOTIATE VARIOUS PARTIAL ACCORDS (VATICAN HAD BEEN THOUGHT TO PREFER PARTIAL ACCORDS APPROACH). IT ALSO BELIEVED GOS MAY POSSIBLY HAVE DEMONSTRATED WILLINGNESS GIVE UP ITS OBJECTIONS TO VATICAN PRACTICE DIRECTLY NAMING AUXILIARY BISHOPS, BUT THAT VATICAN MAY BE GIVING GROUND ON ITS OBJECTIONS TO GOS RIGHT OF PRESENTATION OF BISHOPS.

6. SIGNIFICANT ASPECT CASAROLI'S VISIT APPEARS BE NEAR-EXCLUSION SPANISH EPISCOPATE FROM ANY PARTICIPATION, NOTWITHSTANDING TREND IN RECENT YEARS IN WHICH VATICAN WAS TAKING VIEWS OF EPISCOPATE VERY MUCH INTO ACCOUNT. ONLY REPORTED CONTACT OF CASAROLI WITH EPISCOPATE WAS BREAKFAST MEETING IN NUNCIATURE WITH CARDINAL TARANCON. REPORTEDLY MANY IN EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE WORRIED ABOUT CASAROLI'S VISIT AND ABOUT POSSIBLE VATICAN CONCESSIONS TO GOS BOTH NOW AND IN FUTURE.

7. AMONG OTHER SUBJECTS REPORTEDLY DEALT WITH WAS CASE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MADRID 03560 080623Z

OF BILBAO BISHOP ANOVEROS. IT RUMORED GOS PRESSED HARD HAVE VATICAN AGREE TO TRANSFER MSGR. UBIETA, VICAR GENERAL BILBAO, WHO WAS ALSO PRINCIPAL PROTAGONIST IN FEB ANOVEROS CRISES, TO SALAMANCA, AND THAT GOS MAY HAVE SUCCEEDED THIS AIM. IF LATTER IS TRUE, IT UNDOUBTEDLY WILL SPARK VIGOROUS PROTESTS IN BILBAO AND ELSEWHERE. APPARENT GOS AIM IN POSSIBLE UBIETA

TRANSFER WOULD BE THAT GOS WOULD "GET EVEN" WITH ANOVEROS BY EXPELLING HIS CONTROVERSIAL VICAR GENERAL.

8. ONE OTHER ITEM ALLEGEDLY DEALT WITH MAY HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE TRANSFER IN NEAR FUTURE OF PAPAL NUNCIO, MSGR. DADAGLIO, WHOSE ROLE IN SPAIN HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY CONTROVERSIAL IN RECENT YEARS. TRANSFER AT THIS TIME WOULD ALSO BE STEP TOWARDS CONTINUING IMPROVEMENT RELATIONS BETWEEN HOLZLNA AND GOS.

9. EMBOFF HAS ALREADY HEARD REPORT MOS LIBERAL MEMBERS OF LESSER CLERGY ARE EXTREMELY UNHAPPY OVER CASAROLI VISIT AND PROSPECTS FOR NEGOTIATIONS POSSIBLE NEW CONCORDAT, AND THAT THEY MAY ALREADY BE LAYING PLANS START STAGING DRAMATIC PROTEST ACTIONS, SUCH AS POSSIBLE NEW SIT-IN ATTEMPT AT NUNCIATURE.
AXELROD

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RELIGIOUS LEADERS, CHURCH STATE RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: smithrj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MADRID03560
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740147-0244
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740665/aaaacecx.tel
Line Count: 132
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: ROME 7609
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: smithrj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 MAY 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <24 FEB 2003 by smithrj>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CASAROLI VISIT TO MADRID
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, OVIP, VT, SP, (CORTINA), (CASAROLI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005